

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-15, and 17-30 are pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of these remarks.

Claim Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph 5 of the office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-4, 6-15, 17-18, and 20-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinomiya in view of Doshi. In paragraph 6, the Examiner objected to claims 5 and 19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that those claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In paragraph 7, the Examiner allowed claims 29 and 30. For the following reasons, the Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are allowable.

The rejections of claims 1, 3-4, 6-15, 17-18, and 20-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinomiya in view of Doshi are improper because Doshi and the claimed invention were, at the time the claimed invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

For the reason set forth above, the Applicant submits that the rejections of claims 1, 3-4, 6-15, 17-18, and 20-28 under Sections 103(a) have been overcome.

In view of the above remarks, the Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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